



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR CITY OF AMHERST

**AMHERST, TEXAS, April 5, 2006--** Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today the City of Amherst was selected to receive \$13,950 through the agency's Community Facilities Grant Program. The grant funds will be used to install a new outdoor warning system which can be operated remotely. The system will be used to warn citizens of hazardous weather conditions, fires, floods, chemical spills and other emergencies.

"This funding will assist the City of Amherst in providing their community with early warnings of storms or other emergencies," said Daniel. "USDA Rural Development is committed to providing assistance to rural towns and communities by helping them provide valuable services to their residents."

In Fiscal Year 2005, a total of \$991,000 in Community Facility Grants was obligated in Texas. Funds are used to enhance the quality of life for residents of rural areas by providing the means for construction, expansion, or enhancement of community facilities, telecommunication and distance education programs, and water and waste disposal systems. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development Community Programs have awarded \$1.8 billion for these purposes, and touched the lives of more than 1.16 million households in the process.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 to serve Texas' more than 3.6 million rural residents. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Lubbock Local Office at (806) 785-5644, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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